



ANNUAL LUPINE

Lupinus species. (From *lupus*, Latin for wolf. Folklore held that these flowers, often growing in massive clumps, ravaged the soil, wolf-like. We now know that just the opposite is true. As legumes, they are nitrogen fixing soil enrichers.)

Why it Was Chosen to Reseed Wildfire Burned Areas:

- Blue lupine is often found in open, disturbed places, such as fire sites and roadsides, and is well-adapted to such locations.
- Like rose clover, lupine is a nitrogen fixer.
- It is a colorful harbinger of new life and provides environmental enhancement.
- Species native to California include: *Lupinus nanus* (Sky Lupine), *L. bicolor* (Pigmy-leaved Lupine), *L. densiflorus* var. *aureus* (Golden Lupine), *L. succulentus* (Arroyo Lupine), and *L. vallicola* (Valley Lupine).

How Much to Use:

On wildfire burn areas, use a broadcast seeding rate of 1.0 pound per acre.

It is always used as part of a mixture.

Home owners can buy this in seed packets where other flower seeds are sold. Use 4 ounces of seed for a 10,000 square foot area.

Other Uses in California:

Lupine is used for ornamental color and hillside revitalization.

Background:

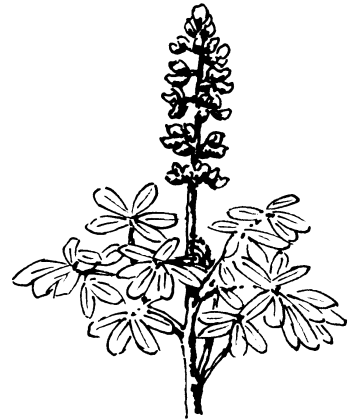
There are annual and perennial lupine species planted throughout California. Annual lupine has been successfully re-planted and used on highway slopes.

It is usually not as widely distributed as the poppies, but generally healthy stands will be scattered throughout the planted area.

Insights for Homeowners:

Lupine will reseed if pods are allowed to form. They are poisonous to livestock.

What it Looks Like



A herb about one foot tall with handsome spikes of blue or white flowers whorled about the stem. The leaves are palmate, that is, with leaflets coming from a single point, like fingers from the palm of your hand.

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